

## TO PACK POULTRY

Specialists Urge Unusual Care in Preparing Fowls.

Methods Recommended Which Are Essential to Perfect Product at Any Time, Especially When Weather Is Unfavorable.

Poultry packers are urged by the specialists of the United States department of agriculture to give unusual attention to preparing and packing their birds for shipment, particularly if the mild weather, which has been prevalent this autumn, continues. The poultry specialists say that the weather conditions in many sections have been very similar to those which prevailed in the autumn of 1913 and which, as poultry shippers will remember, proved disastrous to all packers who did not dress, chill and pack properly.

The specialists, therefore, recommend the particular observance of the following methods of handling dressed poultry, which are essential to a perfect product at any time and are of vital importance whenever weather conditions are unfavorable:

### Methods of Handling Dressed Poultry.

1. Keep the holding batteries for your incoming stock clean, well aired, and free from vermin, and see that the chickens have plenty of fresh water and plenty to eat.

2. Don't kill a chicken when the crop is full of feed. Give the chicken only water for 24 hours before it is killed. Food in the crop or in the intestines of a dressed chicken causes loss of flavor and hastens decay, which more than offsets any gain from extra weight.

3. Good bleeding is absolutely essential to a good appearance on the market and retards decay. Circular 61, bureau of chemistry, department of agriculture, explains the best methods of bleeding and loosening the feather muscles for dry picking.

4. Hang the chicken by both feet while picking. Hanging by one leg spoils the shape of the bird. Picking on the lap gets the skin dirty and hastens decay.

5. Dry pick if possible. Scalding is particularly undesirable because it hastens decay.

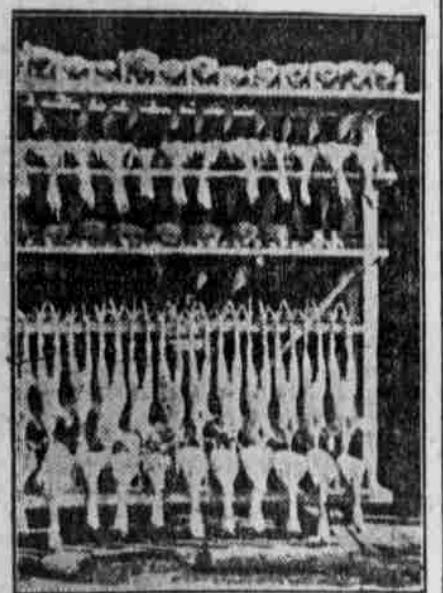
6. Chill every dressed bird until the body temperature is below 35 degrees F. Never pack or ship an imperfectly chilled bird. More decay is due to imperfect chilling than to any other single factor in dressing. Dry chill, if possible. Chickens cooled in water lose flavor, decay sooner, will not cold-store as satisfactorily as dry-chilled, and are in every way more undesirable on the market. Refrigerator cars will carry well-chilled goods in good condition, but they cannot chill warm goods to a sufficiently low temperature.

7. Pack in boxes or small kegs whenever possible. A large barrel makes an undesirable package, because where poultry is packed in large masses the weight of the upper layers crushes the birds at the bottom.

8. Line all packages with parchment paper and cover the top of the poultry before the lid is put on.

9. Wrap every head in suitable paper so that blood from one bird will not mar the appearance of another.

10. Use only good refrigerator cars and see that they are in good order.



Rack for Squatted and Hanging Dressed Poultry.

Ice and salt the car 24 hours before loading. The car, at the end of 24 hours should show a temperature below 40 degrees F. at a point four feet above the floor and between the doors.

### General Suggestions.

Never handle chickens roughly, either before or after killing. Rough handling causes bruises, broken bones, scarred skins, and soft places in the flesh. Undue haste on the part of the killers and pickers results in lowered keeping quality and poor appearance of the product.

Piecework, which leads to quantity rather than quality, makes for lower prices on the market. Those who pay by the piece should remember that they sell by the quality of the piece.

These directions will apply with equal force to turkeys intended for the market.

### NEW SEEDINGS OF ALFALFA

Ground is Not Firm and Considerable Damage Is Done by the Trampling of the Plants.

New seedling of alfalfa should not be pastured. The ground in these fields is not firm and considerable damage is done by the trampling of the plants, especially during wet weather.

Fields established a year or more may be pastured lightly in the fall, but should never be eaten down close.

If the growth of alfalfa is not very strong the field may be top-dressed any time during the fall, preferably just after the third cutting has been removed.

New seedlings may be top-dressed at any time except during wet weather when the ground is soft.

## WOOD LOT VERY CONVENIENT

Useful for Fuel Supply as Well as for Fence Posts and Timber for Other Purposes.

During the years that have passed many men have been engaged in fighting the forest, cutting and clearing land of timber, preparing it for the plow. In other words, making farms and homes. The work still continues in the heavily timbered sections.

Much had judgment was used in the early clearing, often rather steep hillsides were denuded of timber and the soil put under the plow, while in many instances more level portions of the farm were left in timber. Washing soon followed the cultivation of such rough tracts, and today many of them are badly scarred by deep gullies and much of the surface soil has been carried away.

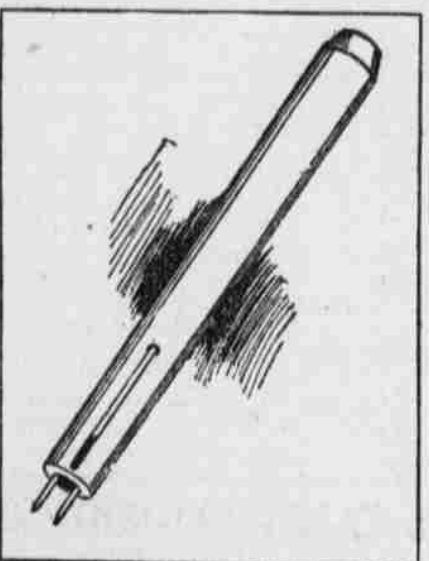
Every farm should have a small wood lot. Forestry on the farm is today an important feature of agriculture and ought to receive considerable attention from farmers. A wood lot is very convenient to have, not only as a source of fuel in times of scarce and high priced coal as at present, but to furnish fence posts and timber for various uses and to add beauty to the landscape and premises, afford shade, shelter and comfort to a large extent for all the occupants of the farm.

A wood lot properly cared for will continue to grow and produce sufficient for the needs of the farm for a time. And a little study of the subject of forestry will greatly aid in maintaining the tract in good condition.

### TO DRIVE STAPLES STRAIGHT

Handy Tool of New Design for Wire Fence Construction—Device Used for Other Purposes.

In the erection of wire fence it is generally necessary to drive a large number of staples and for the security



Tool for Driving Staples.

of the fence it is desirable that the staples should be driven straight and accurately. Owing to the irregularities of the wooden posts and the strain of the fence wire, which is under a heavy tension when being erected, it is not always an easy matter to put the staples just where they are wanted to be of the most service.

The tool shown in the accompanying cut is designed to accomplish this. With its aid a great many more staples may be driven in a given time and they are driven in a much superior manner. Besides being a convenience to fence erectors there are other mechanics who will find use for this tool such as electricians, box makers, cooper and the like.

### WHAT POULTRY HOUSE NEEDS

Plenty of Fresh Air, Sunlight and Dryness Are Imperative Requirements—Have South Front.

The imperative requirements of any house are plenty of fresh air, sunlight and dryness. Fresh air does not necessarily mean cold air and in no wise means draft. There is no more certain forerunner of disease and low vitality in a flock of hens than dampness and draftiness. It has been agreed among poultrymen that the three sides not exposed to the direct rays of the sun should be perfectly tight and free from openings. If necessary to cut doors in one of these sides it should be the east wall, provided, of course, that the house faces the south, as it should.

The roof of a poultry house should be as low as convenient for work, and the various types of ventilators are so much time and money wasted when applied to a poultry house. With the advent of the canvas-front house, the forerunner of the open front, ventilators became obsolete and, like the various cupolas and boxed air-shafts, they have disappeared. While the canvas-front house has also been passed upon as of little practical value, the most successful house of recent years, in fact of any years, is a compromise between this canvas-front and the all-open or no-front house. This latter house, while suitable for some climates and conditions, meets with more or less opposition, and probably the cheap curtain for severe weather has solved the problem so far as it can be solved to the purpose of all conditions.

### SQUABS READY FOR MARKET

Birds Are in Good Condition When Fully Feathered Under Wings—Soon Lose Baby Fat.

Squabs are ready for the market usually from three and one-half to four and one-half weeks of age, and up to this time they are fed by the parent birds.

They must be sent to market promptly, as the period during which they are in best condition rarely exceeds one week.

Squabs are in good market condition when fully feathered under the wings, which is usually about the time they begin to leave the nest.

If they are not killed at this time, they soon lose their baby fat and their flesh begins to harden.

## Fairy Lightness in Party Frocks



Party frocks for the young maid could not symbolize more clearly youth and gaiety and irresponsibility than they have this season. The thinnest and most vapory of materials have divided honors with laces in point of favor for making them. And everywhere silver and gold-thread laces lend sparkle to the general radiance of white and light colors in the sheerest materials.

One of the prettiest is made of white net and Venice lace. A fine quality of voile might be used instead of the net, with good effect. Two-inch tucks, with spaces of equal width between, are hemstitched in the material, covering all the surface. The skirt is short and round and the bodice is cut in the surplice fashion, with the tucks in both running around the figure. There is a crushed girdle of soft wide satin ribbon about the waist. Very short sleeves, that hardly amount to more than a cap over the arms, are finished with a frill of lace which extends only half way round them.

Over this dress a long straight-hanging and sleeveless coat is worn,

made of venetian lace. Bows of satin ribbon with floating ends are caught to the coat at the shoulders. They are of narrow ribbon, matching the girdle in color. Black velvet ribbon may be used for them and for the girdle if a touch of dignity is needed to adapt this gown to an older wearer. In the party gown pictured above, silver-thread lace edges the underskirt of thin crepe or satin. A wide overdress of chiffon is edged with a satin-covered cord at the bottom. Chiffon roses decorate the bodice and are repeated in a wreath in the hair. This is one of those very dainty frocks whose usefulness begins and ends with evening dress. The gown previously described may be worn both for afternoon and evening.

In January the new "lingerie" gowns will appear for the use of those who journey South. They are in the making and awaited with the keenest interest, for they are the most adaptable and refined of dainty things. But they will not displace the party frocks of tulle and lace, given over to frivolity and sparkle which make a grace of being gay.

## Some Pretty Ribbon Things



There is actually no part of the apparel of women, from head to feet, in which ribbons are not playing a prominent role this season. The patron saint of weaving, or the goddess of the loom, appears to have turned especial attention to the fostering of this particular article of adornment. The result is that the beauty of ribbons has compelled attention and inspired their universal use. They crown the head and clothe the feet and touch up all the belongings of womankind.

Just a few of the pretty things that have kept the ribbon business brisk are shown in the picture given above. These include a pair of boudoir slippers with heels, and a pair without them, a pair of garters with small pendant sash bag, and a ribbon bag.

The last is suited to many purposes, but is found chiefly useful for carrying the necessary accessories to evening parties. There is an immense variety in ribbon bags, including those made for shopping and those for holding gloves, handkerchiefs, slippers, toilet articles, etc. Besides these there are workbags with fittings required for mending or sewing. But they are frivolous-looking affairs, so

gay and pretty that it is hard to believe their intention to be useful is serious.

Ready-made soles are bought for making the ribbon slippers, and they are covered on the inside with plain satin ribbon. Flowered and brocaded patterns lined with the plain satin ribbon are used for the upper part. This is cut in the proper shape and sewed by hand to the soles. A very narrow ribbon quilting usually finishes the edges of these gayly attractive slippers.

The garters are made by shirring narrow satin ribbon (usually in two colors) over flat elastic. Bows and rosettes finish them, and the addition of tiny sachets is a new touch.

*Julia Bottomley*

Colored applique trimming, such as was used a number of years ago, has been seen upon one recently created gown. It is doubtful, however, if it will succeed in establishing itself in this season of comparative severity.

In the season; but ostrich plumeage has come to stay. In some few instances ostrich banding is being used to border evening dresses and wraps.

Maxims of the Modiste. Very pointed and very flaring tunics are among the prettiest of the season. The brocade corsage is youthful and pretty and contributes a touch of color.

The new tailored suits will be short coated, almost as short as the Eton jackets of summer time.

## HOME TOWN HELPS

DECIDUOUS TREES IN LAWNS

Some Reasons Why They Seem to Thrive Better There Than Elsewhere.

An observant correspondent writes to ask why deciduous trees and shrubs planted in lawns seem to thrive better than those planted under other conditions, more especially during the summer months, remarks the Los Angeles Times.

Our dry summer atmosphere is very trying on deciduous trees and shrubs for the reason that such dry air causes the leaves to transpire faster than the roots can take up the necessary moisture. Such conditions during the hot weather put the trees, figuratively, in the position of gasping for breath. Trees in lawns have the advantage of being in a moist atmosphere than when in soil with a dry surface, and, therefore, have to labor less and may "breathe" with greater comfort. The soil moisture in a lawn is also more evenly distributed over the entire root system than could be the case where water is applied to trees by irrigation, either by the furrow system of in basins. Deciduous trees always thrive best in lawns.

### LOCATING THE NEW HOME

Points That Should Be Considered Before Permanent Residence Is Decided Upon.

While home building is not a speculative investment, it is a wise plan for the home seeker to consider one or two points in this connection. For example, could he sell at a profit if, through business changes or some other necessity, he should be obliged to sell?

It is a well-known fact that immense fortunes have been made by people buying on the great highways of travel, where the increasing population of some large city, ever pushing out from the center, pays more and more for land.

Since inborn in the heart of most men is the love of making money, to have a tidy little nest for old age or a "rainy day," the home builder looking forward to the time when he might wish to sell will wisely locate on a main line of travel, for as the adjacent city grows, land values must increase, and the holder of such property correspondingly increases his income.

### PLANTS MUST BE STUDIED

Successful Culture Is Impossible Unless One Thoroughly Understands Their Characteristics.

Self-education in plant growing can be carried on in the winter as well as in the summer. It is interesting to study the habits and requirements of any plant, whether it is in season or not. There are many hardy perennials that can be started in the house, and, if the work with them through the winter is successful, they can be set out of doors in the spring. This includes growing from seed such plants as rhubarb and asparagus. There is no end to the plants that may be thus utilized. Also, a plant started and successfully brought to maturity in the home is likely to be harder than those plants that have been started in the greenhouse and afterward transferred to homes. If one fails with a plant a lesson should be gained from the failure in what not to do. If one tries the growing of a good many different kinds of plants there are good chances for succeeding with some of them, even under adverse conditions.

### Do the Work.

Of the little details that attract one's attention in a well designed house, none are more important than are the flower boxes. These should be designed by your architect, and may be simple or pretentious, as the style of your house demands. Built up from the ground, of brick or concrete, they are a source of pleasure the year around, if filled in the winter with low growing evergreens. This is an especially pleasing treatment when used at the sides of the entrance steps.

### Fruit Trees Along Roads.

The habit of planting fruit and nut trees by the roadside has long prevailed in parts of Europe. It should be cultivated in the United States. Hickory and walnut trees are as beautiful as elms and a great deal more useful. Salem's streets have been planted with hundreds of walnut trees. Those set out along McMinville's pavement years ago produced a ton and a half of nuts this season.—Portland Oregonian.

### Dutch New Guinea Mapped.

A Dutch expedition has recently finished mapping Dutch New Guinea, which is about fourteen times as large as the Netherlands and includes the greater part of the island of Papua in the South seas. Primitive men, equipped with crude weapons and implements of stone and flint, were encountered. Some were wild and warlike, while others were peaceable and offered no resistance to the expedition's investigations.

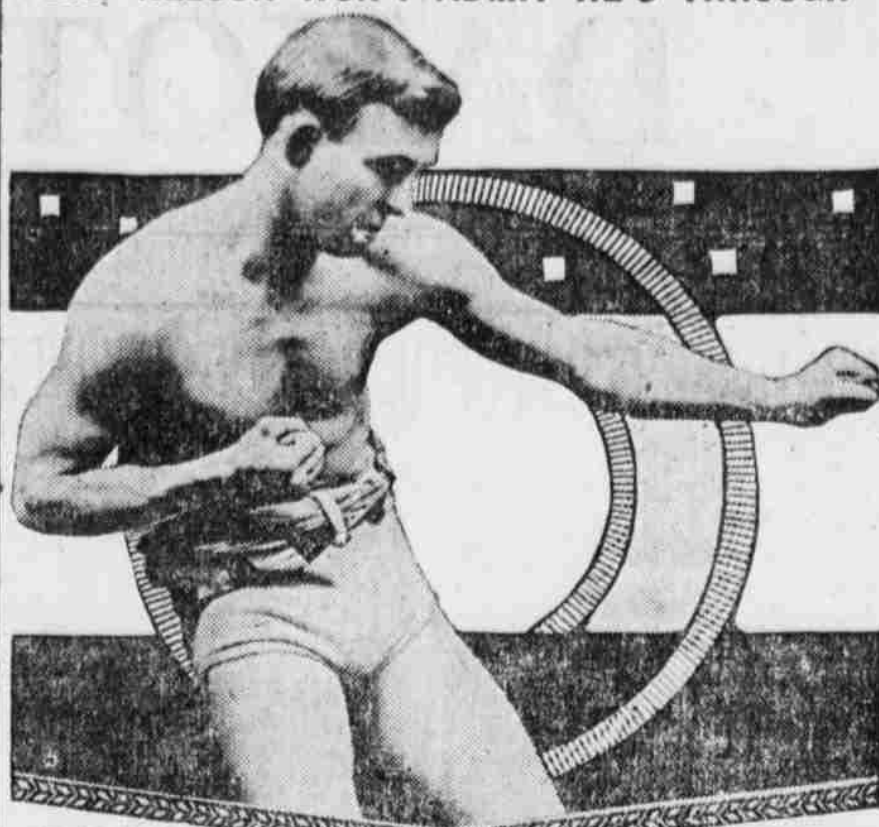
### Comfort.

It's the men's hats that make them bald, they say; and it must have been the hussies that did the same for the hallowed patriarchs of old. They wore naught on their heads.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

### Importation of Birds.

The department of agriculture issues about 500 permits annually for the importation of birds; the number of birds imported amounts to about 500,000, and as many as 17,000 birds arrive in a single day.

## BAT NELSON WON'T ADMIT HE'S THROUGH



Oscar Matthew Nelson.

Bat Nelson isn't the same old durable Dane he used to be; there's no denying that. Twenty years of wear and tear of the sort the Hegewisch landowner has been going through would batter down the most stanch of constitutions. But the Battler isn't what you'd call dilapidated even with those years of punishment. He's still able to flail those Danish arms, and the old description of the Dane, "He's fighting every minute," still is applicable.

The career of Oscar Matthew Nelson is one of the most picturesque in ring history. The old boy has been fighting since 1895. He made his real debut in Kansas City against Clarence English. Jim Blake saw it and he'll tell you that English punished the novice to a frazzle. But Nelson had the heart. He didn't care how fast Clarence's blows came. He took 'em and was there at the finish. And

with that heart as his entire stock he set out to make a record.

That heart carried Bat Nelson to a championship, and it held that title for him until along came Ad Wolgast. Bat won't admit even now that the Michigan Dutchman gave him a beating in 1910, but Referee Ed Smith thought so and stopped the fighting, giving Wolgast a technical knockout and the championship. But the Dane's fight career did not stop with that defeat. His heart was still with him.

He has kept right on fighting with one object in view. He wants that title back—not for what it's worth in gold, but to redeem himself.

Bat says he doesn't care about the financial end of the game any more. That's bosh, of course. He does like that old per cent. But a talk with him will convince you that money isn't all he's after. He is in earnest about regaining the championship.

## INTERESTING SPORT PARAGRAPHS

Rabbit Maranville of the Boston Braves is playing basketball this winter.

Mike Kelley has signed a contract to lead the St. Paul team again next year.

The chances a fighter has for a championship these days depend on his press agent.

The Pittsburgh club denies that any offer has been made for Eddie Mahan, the Harvard athlete.

Charley White and Jack White are brothers, but Jack has not proved that fighting runs in the family.

Billiards is that wonderful, unique and satisfying sport in which everybody can be champion all the time.

Billy Hart, who resigned last summer from the National league, is anxious to get back into the game again.

Jess Willard will have a hard time making ends meet. He won't fight until March, then he gets only \$32,500.

Maranville of the Boston Braves has put a crimp in the "boy phenom" stuff by announcing his twenty-fifth birthday.

William H. Moore continues to lead all of the show horse exhibitors, winning no less than 22 firsts at New York.

The next time they want to handicap Willie Hoppe in billiards they might make him shoot walnuts with a toothpick.

Jack Warhop, Yankee pitcher, who was released unconditionally, has been signed to a trial contract by the Cardinals.

Evers, without his crabbing, would be just about as much of an attraction on the ball field as Ty Cobb minus his bat.

Hal Boy was beaten more times than any of the high class pacers, yet he leads them all with \$30,000 won during the season.

August Herrman is going to make another effort to bring peace out of the present warfare between the Feds and organized ball.

The president of the International league says there is a lean year ahead of ball players. There are several behind some magnates.

Some major clubs will not send scouts to the bushes next season. Probably because there are enough bush leaguers in the majors.

There is a man in Pittsburgh, sixty-seven years old, who still plays baseball. Joe Cantillon ought to land him quick for his Minneapolis team.

Those short term contracts which will be meted out to the Cubs next year would be welcomed more at Leavenworth, Joliet, Sing Sing and Atlanta.

Billy Sullivan, the famous catcher, who lives in Chicago, is putting in some of his winter on the Pacific coast looking after his apple ranch in Oregon.

Wanderers in the wilderness of lightweight endeavor seem to be singularly fortunate in securing backing from Denver syndicate of which we have heard so often.

### LACK INTEREST IN BREEDING

Man Who Is Responsible for Greatest Sport in World Falling Into Decay in America.

"The man who goes out to the race track, bets on a horse and shows no interest in the breeding, even if his favorite wins, is of no use to the sport, of no assistance to the breeding industry and does not love a horse."

That, in a nutshell, expresses the views of Robert S. Slevier, the famous English horseman, now visiting America for the purpose of acquainting himself with the methods of American stud farms and the future of racing as a sport.

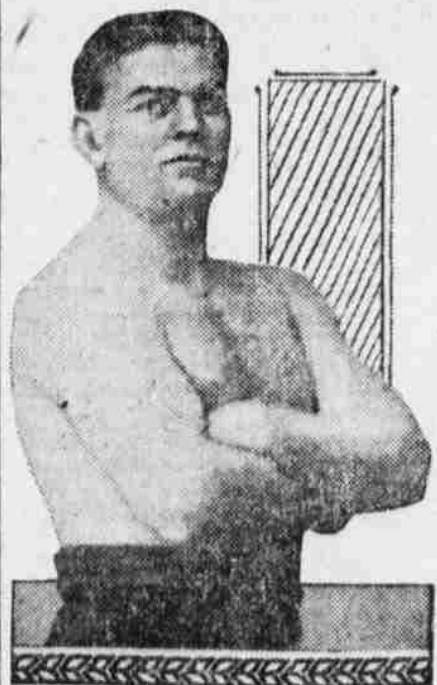
"Moreover," explained Mr. Slevier, "the kind of man I mention is the one who is responsible for the greatest sport in the world falling into decay in America. A person who is not interested in the breeding of horses has no real interest at a race meet. He is merely a gambler."

"By that I do not mean to say that men ought not to bet on horse races. Men always have bet on their favorite horses and always will. Without this element the sport would lose much of its zest, but betting should not be paramount. Interest in breeding is what denotes a true lover of the horse."

### SEEK GOTCH AS IOWA COACH

Famous Wrestling Champion Wanted by University Squad—Athletic Board Is Hopeful.

Frank Gotch, Iowa's famous wrestling star, may become the coach of the Iowa university wrestling squad. The university athletic board is in



Frank Gotch.

communication with the Humboldt Hercules, and the local officials think they will be able to secure the big man's signature to a contract for the coming season.

### Schaller's Excellent Record.

Bill Schaller, left fielder of the San Francisco team, has established a record for continuous baseball that stands out as a remarkable performance. In two years of service with the San Francisco club he has not missed a game of ball, and only twice during the season just concluded did he fail to play the entire game, going out once in the fifth inning and once in the sixth. During 1914 Schaller participated in 212 games of ball, and this year he was in 208 games, all the Seals have played.

### Not Boasting of Year 1915.

There are a few persons who will not boast of the year 1915—John McGraw, Connie Mack, Francis Granger, Jerome Travers, Chick Evans, Maurice McLoughlin and R. Norris Williams.